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UNITED STATES.

REPORTS TO THE SURGEON-GENERAL, PUBLIC HEALTH AND MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE.

PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK.

Surgeon Blue reports:

ANIMALS EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE INFECTION.

During the week ended October 1, 1910, there were examined at the federal laboratory at San Francisco and the branch laboratories at Oakland and Los Angeles, Cal., animals as follows: Squirrels 3,230, rabbits 9, gophers 2, rats 2,047. The rats were identified as follows: *Mus norvegicus* 1,786, *Mus rattus* 115, *Mus alexandrinus* 104, *Mus musculus* 42.

No plague-infected animals were found.

DISTRIBUTION OF POISON.

In connection with the making of a squirrel-free zone around the cities on San Francisco Bay, 1,225 acres of land in Contra Costa County, 15 acres in Merced County, and 262 acres in San Mateo County were covered with poison during the week ended October 1, 1910.

Record of Plague Infection.

Place.	Date of last case of human plague.	Date of last case of rodent plague.	Total number of rodents found infected since May, 1907.
California:			
Cities—			
San Francisco.....	Jan. 30, 1908	Oct. 23, 1908	398 rats.
Oakland.....	Oct. 26, 1909	Dec. 1, 1908	126 rats.
Berkeley.....	Aug. 28, 1907	None recorded.	
Los Angeles.....	Aug. 11, 1908	Aug. 21, 1908	1 squirrel.
Counties—			
Alameda (exclusive of the city of Oakland)...	Sept. 26, 1909	May 30, 1910	82 squirrels, 1 wood rat.
Contra Costa.....	July 21, 1908	Sept. 10, 1910	247 squirrels.
Merced.....	None recorded.	June 6, 1910	2 squirrels.
Monterey.....	do.....	do.....	4 squirrels.
San Benito.....	June 5, 1910	July 11, 1910	20 squirrels.
San Joaquin.....	None recorded.	Aug. 19, 1910	6 squirrels.
San Luis Obispo.....	do.....	Jan. 29, 1910	1 squirrel.
Santa Clara.....	Sept. 5, 1910	June 22, 1910	22 squirrels.
Santa Cruz.....	None recorded.	May 17, 1910	3 squirrels.
Stanislaus.....	do.....	May 21, 1910	5 squirrels.
Washington:			
Seattle.....	Oct. 30, 1907	Feb. 8, 1910	22 rats.

Rats Collected and Examined for Plague Infection.

Place.	Week ended—	Found dead.	Total collected.	Examined.	Found infected.
California:					
Berkeley.....	Oct. 1 .....	.....	^a 127	127	.....
Oakland.....	do.....	30	^b 707	608	.....
San Francisco.....	do.....	47	^c 1,998	1,312	.....
Total.....		77	2,832	2,047	.....

^a Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 85, *Mus musculus* 42.

^b Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 624, *Mus rattus* 1, *Mus musculus* 111, *Mus alexandrinus* 1.

^c Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 1,411, *Mus rattus* 114, *Mus musculus* 330, *Mus alexandrinus* 103.

Squirrels Collected and Examined for Plague Infection.

Place.	Week ended—	Trapped and shot.	Found dead.	Examined.	Found infected.
California:					
Cities—					
San Francisco.....	Oct. 1...	10	.....	9	.....
Counties—					
Calaveras.....	do.....	149	.....	149	.....
Contra Costa.....	do.....	251	7	258	.....
Fresno.....	do.....	375	.....	372	.....
Los Angeles.....	do.....	202	2	196	.....
Madera.....	do.....	13	.....	13	.....
Merced.....	do.....	84	21	105	.....
Monterey.....	do.....	382	.....	376	.....
Sacramento.....	do.....	229	1	230	.....
San Joaquin.....	do.....	271	.....	266	.....
San Luis Obispo.....	do.....	941	.....	913	.....
San Mateo.....	do.....	8	33	41	.....
Santa Clara.....	do.....	28	.....	28	.....
Solano.....	do.....	159	.....	159	.....
Tuolumne.....	do.....	115	.....	115	.....
Total.....		3,223	64	3,230	.....

Other Animals Collected and Examined.

Place.	Week ended—	Animals collected.	Examined.	Found infected.
California:				
Cities—				
San Francisco.....	Oct. 1...	3 gophers.....	2	.....
Counties—				
Merced.....	do.....	3 wood rats.....	.....	.....
San Luis Obispo.....	do.....	5 rabbits.....	5	.....
San Mateo.....	do.....	17 field mice.....	.....	.....
Santa Clara.....	do.....	3 rabbits.....	3	.....
Solano.....	do.....	1 rabbit.....	1	.....
Total.....			11	.....